

Application Serial No.: 10/799,503
Attorney Docket No.: 0160113

List of Claims:

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1. (currently amended) A method of improving synthesized speech quality in a speech coding system including an encoder and a decoder, said method comprising:
 - obtaining an input speech signal by said encoder;
 - coding said input speech signal by said encoder using a Code Excited Linear Prediction (CELP) coder to generate CELP coding parameters for synthesis of said input speech signal;
 - generating a plurality CELP speech frames by said encoder, each of said plurality CELP speech frames including said CELP coding parameters;
 - classifying each of said plurality CELP speech frames into a plurality of classes, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, and wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class;
 - creating a plurality of voicing indexes by said encoder, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes is derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter Rp, where $1.0 < Rp < 4.0$, and each of said plurality of voicing indexes is indicative of specifically designates one of [[a]] said plurality of classes of said input speech signal, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a

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lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class; and

transmitting each of said plurality of voicing indexes as part of each of said plurality of CELP speech frames and in addition to said CELP coding parameters, by said encoder to said decoder for specifically designating one of a plurality of classes corresponding to each of said plurality of CELP speech frames, whereby enhancing said synthesis of said input speech signal by said decoder.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive highpass filter by said decoder..

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive perceptual weighting filter by said decoder.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive Sinc window by said decoder.

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6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a spectrum tilt of said input speech signal by short-term enhancement of a fixed-codebook by said decoder.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a perceptual weighting filter by said decoder.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a linear prediction coder by said decoder.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a pitch enhancement fixed-codebook by said decoder.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a post pitch enhancement by said decoder.

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11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes is for use by said decoder to select at least one sub-codebook from a plurality of sub-codebooks.

12. (currently amended) A method of improving synthesized speech quality in a speech coding system including an encoder and a decoder, said method comprising:

receiving a plurality of Code Excited Linear Prediction (CELP) speech frames by said decoder from said encoder;

obtaining a plurality of CELP coding parameters by decoding each of said plurality of CELP speech frames by said decoder;

obtaining a plurality of voicing indexes, in addition to said plurality of CELP coding parameters, by decoding each of said plurality of CELP speech frames by said decoder for use by said decoder for enhancing synthesis of obtaining classification designation of said input speech signal by said encoder, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes is derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter R_p , where $-1.0 < R_p < 1.0$, and each of said plurality of voicing indexes is indicative of specifically designates one of a plurality of classes of said input speech signal, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, and wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class; and

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generating a synthesized version of said input speech signal using said plurality of CELP coding parameters and said plurality of voicing indexes by said decoder.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, whercin at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive highpass filter by said decoder.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive perceptual weighting filter by said decoder.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive Sinc window for pitch contribution by said decoder.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a spectrum tilt of said input speech signal by short-term enhancement of a fixed-codebook by said decoder.

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18. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a linear prediction coder filter by said decoder.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a pitch enhancement fixed-codebook by said decoder.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling a post pitch enhancement by said decoder.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said decoder uses at least one of said plurality of said voicing indexes selects at least one sub-codebook from a plurality of sub-codebooks.

22. (currently amended) An encoder for improving synthesized speech quality of an input speech signal, said encoder comprising:

a receiver configured to receive said input speech signal by said encoder;

a Code Excited Linear Prediction (CELP) coder configured to:

generating generate CELP coding parameters for synthesis of said input

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speech signal, configured to

generate a plurality CELP speech frames, each of said plurality CELP speech frames including said CELP coding parameters, and further configured to

classify each of said plurality CELP speech frames into a plurality of classes, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, and wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class.

create a plurality of voicing indexes, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes is derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter R_p , where $-1.0 \leq R_p \leq 1.0$, and each of said plurality of voicing indexes is indicative of specifically designates one of [[a]] said plurality of classes of said input speech signal, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, and wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class;

a transmitter configured to transmit each of said plurality of voicing indexes as part of each of said plurality of CELP speech frames and in addition to said CELP coding parameters, by

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said encoder to a decoder for use in specifically designating one of a plurality of classes corresponding to each of said plurality of CELP speech frames, whereby enhancing said synthesis of said input speech signal by said decoder.

23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive highpass filter by said decoder.

25. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive perceptual weighting filter by said decoder.

26. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive Sinc window by said decoder.

27. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 22, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes is for use by said decoder to select at least one sub-codebook from a plurality of sub-codebooks.

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28. (currently amended) A decoder for improving synthesized speech quality of an input speech signal, said method comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a plurality of Code Excited Linear Prediction (CELP) speech frames from an encoder based on said input speech signal,

wherein said decoder is configured to:

obtains obtain a plurality of CELP coding parameters by decoding each of said plurality of CELP speech frames,

and wherein said decoder obtains obtain a plurality of voicing indexes, in addition to said plurality of CELP coding parameters, by decoding each of said plurality of CELP speech frames to obtain classification designation of said input speech signal by said encoder, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes being derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter R_p , where $-1.0 \leq R_p \leq 1.0$, and each of said plurality of voicing indexes being indicative of specifically designates one of a plurality of classes of said input speech signal, wherein each of said plurality of classes of said input speech signal represents a different degree of periodicity of said input speech signal, wherein said decoder generates a synthesized version of said input speech signal using said plurality of CELP coding parameters and said plurality of voicing indexes, and wherein said plurality of classes of said input speech signal include a background noise class, an unvoiced class, a first voiced class, a second voiced class, wherein said first voiced class has a lower degree of periodicity than said second voiced class.

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29. (cancelled)

30. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 28, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive highpass filter by said decoder.

31. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 28, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive perceptual weighting filter by said decoder.

32. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 28, wherein at least one of said plurality of voicing indexes provides information from said encoder to said decoder for controlling an adaptive Sinc window for pitch contribution by said decoder.

33. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 28, wherein said decoder uses at least one of said plurality of said voicing indexes selects at least one sub-codebook from a plurality of sub-codebooks.

34. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes has a plurality of bits indicative of a specifically designating said classification of each frame of said plurality of CELP speech frames.

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35. (original) The method of claim 34, wherein said plurality of bits are three bits.
36. (original) The method of claim 34, wherein said classification is indicative of periodicity of said input speech signal.
37. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes has a plurality of bits indicative of a specifically designating said classification of each frame of said plurality of CELP speech frames.
38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein said plurality of bits are three bits.
39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein said classification is indicative of periodicity of said input speech signal.
40. (currently amended) The encoder of claim 22, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes has a plurality of bits indicative of a specifically designating said classification of each frame of said plurality of CELP speech frames.
41. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 40, wherein said plurality of bits are three bits.

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42. (previously presented) The encoder of claim 40, wherein said classification is indicative of a noisy speech signal.

43. (currently amended) The decoder of claim 28, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes has a plurality of bits indicative of a specifically designating said classification of each frame of said plurality of CELP speech frames.

44. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 40, wherein said classification is indicative of a periodic index.

45. (previously presented) The decoder of claim 40, wherein said periodic index ranges from a low periodic index to a high periodic index.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of voicing indexes are used in place of pitch gain for post pitch enhancement.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said plurality of voicing indexes are used to control a modification to a low pass filter for said Sinc window.

48. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes is derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter Rp, where $-1.0 < Rp < 1.0$.

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49. (new) The method of claim 12, wherein each of said plurality of voicing indexes is derived from a normalized pitch correlation parameter Rp, where $-1.0 < Rp < 1.0$.